

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abe et al. (2003/0122759) in view of Sekiya et al. (US 6,583,775).

By this amendment, the subject matter of claim 5 has been incorporated into claim 1 and, as indicated by the Examiner, this claim should now be allowable. Moreover, the subject matter of claim 6 has been incorporated into claim 1 and rewritten as new claim 9, which should also be allowable. Claims 2, 5 and 6 have been cancelled.

Claim 8 was rejected over Abe et al., but since it now depends on amended Claim 1, it should also be allowable.

This case is now believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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